

## DOE Weekly Field Memo – February 10, 2010

### **From the Department of Education:**

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- Medicaid Grant Awards for School-Based Health Services Reimbursement
- Vermont Teacher of the Year Nomination Form & Application Form for 2011
- Professional Development for Career and Technical Education (CTE): Literacy Improvement through Applied Learning Strategies
- Business Leaders Share Their Career Stories with Area 7th Graders at “Your Journey Starts Here”
- Vermont Freemasons C.A.R.E. Training (Comprehensive Assessment & Recovery Effort)
- 2010 Vermont Science Teachers’ Annual Conference: “Communication for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Science Learning”
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- Act 62 Prekindergarten Legislative Report
- Assessment Information Reporting Tool Available

### **From the Vermont Teacher Diversity Initiative:**

- National Minority Careers in Education Expo in New York City

### **From the Vermont Higher Education Collaborative:**

- How People Learn - Integrating Cognitive Science & Educational Research in Your School & Classroom

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## **Employment Opportunities at the Department of Education**

### **Audience: All**

The department is currently recruiting for several employment positions. Currently the following five positions are posted on the state personnel Web page:

1. Two Financial Specialist III positions on the Business Office Team
2. Assistant Division Director on General Supervision Team
3. Education Program Coordinator I (Mathematics) on the Standards & Assessment Team
4. Education Program Coordinator I (Literacy) on the Standards & Assessment Team

Find [complete job descriptions attached](#).

Contact: John Turner, Human Resources Director, at (802) 828-5102 or [john.turner@state.vt.us](mailto:john.turner@state.vt.us)

## **Medicaid Grant Awards for School-based Health Services Reimbursement**

### **Audience: Superintendents, Business Managers, Special Education Administrators, School Medicaid Clerks**

The Department of Education currently produces monthly grant awards to reimburse supervisory unions for claims billed to the School-based Health Services Program. Beginning in FY11, the frequency of grant awards will be reduced to quarterly reimbursement. This payment schedule outlines how reimbursement will be issued beginning in July 2010. Visit [http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm\\_finance\\_sped/medicaid.html#quarterly](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_finance_sped/medicaid.html#quarterly) for the payment schedule.

Contact: Nicole Tousignant, Medicaid Finance Director, at (802) 828-5111 or [nicole.tousignant@state.vt.us](mailto:nicole.tousignant@state.vt.us)

## **Vermont Teacher of the Year Nomination Form & Application Form for 2011**

### **Audience: Principals, Superintendents**

The nomination and application forms for 2011 Vermont Teacher of the Year nominations are available on the department Web site. **Nomination and application forms are due March 15, 2010.** The first step in the process is a nomination by a principal. For more information, visit [http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/awards.html#application\\_nomination](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/awards.html#application_nomination).

Contact: Tina Muncy, School Improvement Coordinator, at (802) 828-1184 or [tina.muncy@state.vt.us](mailto:tina.muncy@state.vt.us)

**Business Leaders Share Their Career Stories with Area 7<sup>th</sup> Graders at “Your Journey Starts Here”**

**Audience: Middle Level Educators, Principals, Guidance Counselors**

On February 23, 2010, Castleton State College will host 230 seventh grade students from Benson, Castleton Village School, Fair Haven, Mill River Union Middle School, Orwell and Proctor. The occasion is a career exploration day entitled “Your Journey Starts Here!” The concept is to connect seventh-graders with college students in an event that will provide exposure to college campus life, an opportunity to hear transitional career stories from students and adults, and an experiential exercise in the concepts of innovation, teamwork and other key 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills. This event is sponsored by GE Aviation, OMYA, INC., VSAC, Linking Learning to Life and the Vermont Department of Education.

For more information visit <http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html#journey>.

Contact: Andrew Hudacs, Education Coordinator, at (802) 828-3892 or [andrew.hudacs@state.vt.us](mailto:andrew.hudacs@state.vt.us); or Nancy Burzon, Rutland and Bennington Workforce Investment Board, [njburzon@vermontel.net](mailto:njburzon@vermontel.net).

**Vermont Freemasons C.A.R.E. Training (Comprehensive Assessment & Recovery Effort)**

**Audience: Superintendents, Administrators, Tobacco Coordinators, Safe & Drug-Free Schools Coordinators, School Resource Officers, School Nurses, Student Assistance Professionals**

This intensive two-day training, which is free to schools, helps educators to implement a team approach in identifying and responding to factors that contribute to a student’s behavior or inability to learn such as bullying, substance abuse, depression and violence. C.A.R.E. provides attendees with practice sessions designed to simulate real events along with presentations on Chemical Dependency, Depression and Suicide, Conflict, Anger and Violence, Communication Skills and Intervention, Family Dynamics, Enabling, Life Skills Development, Treatment and Aftercare, Group Processes and Building a Successful Core Team. Participants leave with a specific plan for behavioral interventions and a system for helping students that they can implement in their schools. For registration and other information go to:

[http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html#march\\_10](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html#march_10).

Contact: Donna McAllister at [donna.mcallister@state.vt.us](mailto:donna.mcallister@state.vt.us) or (802) 828-1636

**2010 Vermont Science Teachers’ Annual Conference: “Communication for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Science Learning”**

**Audience: Principals, K-12 Teachers of Science, K-8 Teachers of Literacy, ELL Teachers, Curriculum Coordinators, DOE Personnel**

This conference will take place on March 31, 2010, at the Stowe/Flake Mountain Resort and will address 21<sup>st</sup> Century communication in science for ALL students through a variety of instructional strategies: science notebooks, project-based inquiry, engineering design, group collaboration and scaffolding to support English Language Learners.

Keynote speaker and workshop presenter is Dr. Michael Klentschy, former Superintendent of Schools of the El Centro School District in California. He is currently studying the longitudinal effects of inquiry-based science education on language minority populations and the science-literacy connection in several other states. Registration and a listing of workshops choices are available at:

<http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html#science>.

Contact: Gail Hall at [gail.hall@state.vt.us](mailto:gail.hall@state.vt.us) or (802) 828-0156

**Professional Development for Career and Technical Education (CTE): Literacy Improvement through Applied Learning Strategies**

**Audience: Superintendents, Special Education Directors, Principals, CTE Directors, Teachers**

This professional development workshop will emphasize proven strategies to strengthen student writing skills and improve her or his understanding of course content. Dr. Suzanne Doherty of Collins Education Associates will provide practical, ready to-use writing activities and strategies which can be implemented immediately in all technical and/or academic classes. This workshop is free, limited to 38 attendees, and will take place at the Capitol Plaza on April 2, 2010. The link to access the registration and agenda is:

<http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html#literacy>.

Andrew Hudacs, (802) 828-3892 or [andrew.hudacs@state.vt.us](mailto:andrew.hudacs@state.vt.us).

**Vermont Kindergarten Conference 2010 Registration**

**Audience: Kindergarten Teachers, Early Educators**

*Teaching from the Inside Out: Lessons from a Navajo Kindergarten.* This talk explores the challenges and the benefits of implementing a developmental kindergarten with disadvantaged children who are English Language learners and proposes that, when confronted with extreme cultural and linguistic differences,

relationship is the initial building block of the effective developmental curriculum. For more information and to register, visit [http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html#kid\\_con](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html#kid_con). Contact: Shirley Rawson, Assistant, at (802) 828-5128 or [shirley.rawson@state.vt.us](mailto:shirley.rawson@state.vt.us) for registration questions or Manuela Fonseca, Early Education Specialist, at (802) 828-3850 or [manuela.fonseca@state.vt.us](mailto:manuela.fonseca@state.vt.us) for content questions.

#### **Press Release: Vermont AP Exam Results Released for Class of 2009**

##### **Audience: All**

Vermont high school seniors posted a strong showing on the 2009 College Board Advanced Placement (AP) exams, the Department of Education announced today. View the complete release at [http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/press\\_releases.html](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/press_releases.html). Contact: Jill Remick, Communications Director, at (802) 828-3154 or [jill.remick@state.vt.us](mailto:jill.remick@state.vt.us)

#### **Act 62 Prekindergarten Legislative Report**

##### **Audience: All**

The purpose of Act 62 is to ensure access to quality prekindergarten (pre-K) education programs, promote partnerships between school districts and qualified private programs, require community input prior to establishing or expanding programs, and offer children and their families greater access to early learning experiences. View the latest legislative report on Act 62 at [http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/laws/legislative\\_reports.html#prek](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/laws/legislative_reports.html#prek). Contact: Manuela Fonseca, Early Education Specialist, at (802) 828-3850 or [manuela.fonseca@state.vt.us](mailto:manuela.fonseca@state.vt.us)

#### **Assessment Information Reporting Tool Available**

##### **Audience: All**

The department now offers an online reporting tool available to the public. Administrators and educators can also use this tool to create school-specific PDFs, charts and graphs for results. These can then be used for Powerpoints and other public reports to aid discussions on assessment results. Visit <http://edw.vermont.gov/REPORTSERVER/Pages/ReportViewer.aspx?%2fPublic%2fAssessment+Report>. Contact: Stephen Magill, Education Data Analyst, at (802) 828-6565 or [Stephen.magill@state.vt.us](mailto:Stephen.magill@state.vt.us)

#### **From the Vermont Teacher Diversity Initiative:**

##### **National Minority Careers in Education Expo in New York City**

##### **Audience: All Administrators**

The Vermont Teacher Diversity Initiative (VTDI) has secured a booth at the National Minority Careers in Education Expo in New York City to be held on Saturday, March 13th, 2010. Districts who are interested in sending representatives to conduct recruitment of teachers to intentionally diversify their staffs are encouraged to attend. The VTDI is covering the cost of the event; interested parties would only need to pay for their own travel and lodging in New York. The Burlington School District is sending its Superintendent, several administrators, and some community members in order to conduct outreach. Space is provided to conduct interviews on site with potential candidates. Contact: Jim Woodard, Statewide Teacher Diversity Coordinator, at (802) 540-1021 or [info@vtdsp.org](mailto:info@vtdsp.org)

#### **From the Vermont Higher Education Collaborative:**

##### **How People Learn - Integrating Cognitive Science & Educational Research in Your School & Classroom**

##### **Audience: All**

The Vermont Higher Education Collaborative presents a Conference & Course with Dr. G. Christian Jernstedt of Dartmouth focused on the findings of recent research on the brain and learning and how those findings can be applied to improve learning for all. The event is titled: ***How People Learn - Integrating Cognitive Science & Educational Research in Your School & Classroom*** and would benefit anyone who works with children and adults. During the conference working teachers will share their experience applying these findings with their students. The conference will be held June 24 & 25, 2010 at the StoweFlake Resort. See <http://www.VTHEC.org> for details and registration. Contact: Dennis Kane at (802) 802-498-3350 or [info@vthec.org](mailto:info@vthec.org)

Weekly Field Memo is Online!

The DOE Weekly Field Memo is archived on the Department of Education Web site at [http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/field\\_memo.html](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/field_memo.html). Field Memos and the corresponding attachments are available for download. For Field Memo information three months or older, or for other questions, please contact Jill Remick, communications director, at (802) 828-3154 or [jill.remick@state.vt.us](mailto:jill.remick@state.vt.us).

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

For the Department of Education Web site see: <http://education.vermont.gov/>. For upcoming events or professional development opportunities, see the DOE Calendar of Events located at: <http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html>.

Main Department Line: (802) 828-3135

NOTE: For comments or questions specific to the messages above, please contact the person listed. DO NOT reply to this message.

This Field Memo is posted weekly by the Department of Education to better organize our e-communications to the field. There may be times when separate messages from the department will still be sent.

# EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

## Department of Education

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### EDUCATION ASSISTANT DIVISION DIRECTOR

This is an exciting key role in providing statewide education leadership as Co-Director of Special Education, policy and budget development, management of projects, supervision of staff and federal and state liaison for special education.

We are looking for an individual who has the knowledge, skills and experience to coordinate a system of special education monitoring, creative cross systems work with the Integrated Support for Learning Team, accountability for school quality and student achievement, technical assistance and consolidated federal planning with supervisory unions and schools.

Successful candidates will demonstrate a working knowledge of federal and state law regulations governing special education, monitoring federal programs, technical assistance and federal funding, and have current field experience, as well as systems improvement and innovation experience or education.

For additional information regarding this position, you may contact Deb Quackenbush at 802 828-5877 or email [deb.quackenbush@state.vt.us](mailto:deb.quackenbush@state.vt.us) . Reference job positing 26640. *Montpelier-Full Time.*

### EDUCATION PROGRAM COORDINATOR I (Literacy)

We are looking for an individual with a strong background in early literacy curriculum, instruction and assessment to serve in a leadership capacity in the area of E/LA standards and assessments. This individual will be involved in ongoing development of the NECAP reading assessment, VT's current state assessment for grades 3 - 6 as a member of the four-state collaborative team. He/she will be involved in the alignment of the Vermont Standards and Grade Expectations to the Common Core and 21st century skills and knowledge, as well as the potential future development of assessments aligned with those revised expectations. He/she will assist with the dissemination of information related to statewide reading and writing data and learning trends; assist in the development of classroom resources to strengthen understanding of the K - 5 GEs; provide leadership to the field for early literacy curriculum, instruction, and assessment; and assist with the coordination of DOE special projects statewide.

This position requires a Masters degree and extensive experience in curriculum, instructional and assessment work in public education.

For additional information regarding this position, you may contact Gail Taylor at 802 828-5158 or email [gail.taylor@state.vt.us](mailto:gail.taylor@state.vt.us) . Reference job positing 26642. *Montpelier- Full Time.*

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## **EDUCATION PROGRAM COORDINATOR I (Mathematics)**

We are looking for an individual with a strong background in middle and high school mathematics curriculum, instruction and assessment to serve in a leadership capacity in the area of mathematics standards and assessments. This individual will be involved in ongoing development of the NECAP assessment, VT's current state assessment for grades 6-10 mathematics as a member of the four-state collaborative team. He/she will be involved in the alignment of the Vermont Standards and Grade Expectations to the Common Core/ Career and College Readiness Standards and 21st century skills and knowledge, as well as the potential future development of assessments aligned with those revised expectations. He/she will assist with the dissemination of information related to statewide mathematics data and learning trends; assist in the development of classroom resources to strengthen understanding of the 6-12 mathematics GEs; provide 6-12 leadership to the field for mathematics curriculum, instruction, and assessment; and assist with the coordination of DOE special projects statewide, including STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) initiatives and high school transformation

This position requires a Masters degree and extensive experience in curriculum, instructional and assessment work in public education.

For additional information regarding this position, you may contact Gail Taylor at 802 828-5158 or email [gail.taylor@state.vt.us](mailto:gail.taylor@state.vt.us) . Reference job positing 26641. *Montpelier- Full Time.*

## **FINANCIAL SPECIALIST III (2 positions)**

These positions have a wide range of professional-level accounting functions, including financial grants management, budget development and federal reporting. One position also manages an electronic claims processing system for child nutrition payments to schools and day cares. Extremely heavy workload and tight deadlines are normal for these positions. Ability to prioritize and work accurately under pressure are essential.

For additional information regarding this posting you may contact Kathy Flanagan at 802 828-0482 or via email at [kathy.flanagan@state.vt.us](mailto:kathy.flanagan@state.vt.us) Reference job positing 26597 *Montpelier- Full Time.*